

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 1, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The amendments made herein and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 16-20, and 22-24 have been amended. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein are fully supported in the specification and the drawings as originally filed, and therefore no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-9, 11-20 and 22-29 are pending in the present application and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-9, 11-20 and 22-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the "written description" requirement of the statute. Specifically, the Examiner took the position that the subject matter of the invention as recited in the claims is NOT disclosed or described in the specification in such a way as to "enable a person skilled in the relevant art to make or use the same.

Claim 1 as amended, recite a system for accessing electronic books comprising, among other features, a controller connected to the file server for controlling access to electronic books on the file server, wherein the controller prevents the viewer from receiving additional electronic books from the file server when a number of electronic books stored on the viewer exceeds a maximum number.

Claim 16 as amended, recite a system for viewing electronic books retrieved from a file server comprising, among other features, means for selecting an electronic

book from the file server, wherein the means for selecting an electronic book is configured to prevent the viewer from receiving additional electronic books from the file server when a number of electronic books stored on the viewer exceeds a maximum number.

Furthermore, claim 24 as amended recite a method for distributing electronic books from a vendor to a purchaser comprising, among other features, preventing the viewer from downloading additional electronic books from the file server when a number of the selected books stored on the viewer exceeds a maximum number.

Applicant respectfully submits that the features of the present invention are indeed disclosed in the disclosure of the application. For example, Figure 15 and the corresponding written description on pages 23-24 of the specification provide an exemplary embodiment of the present invention as follows:

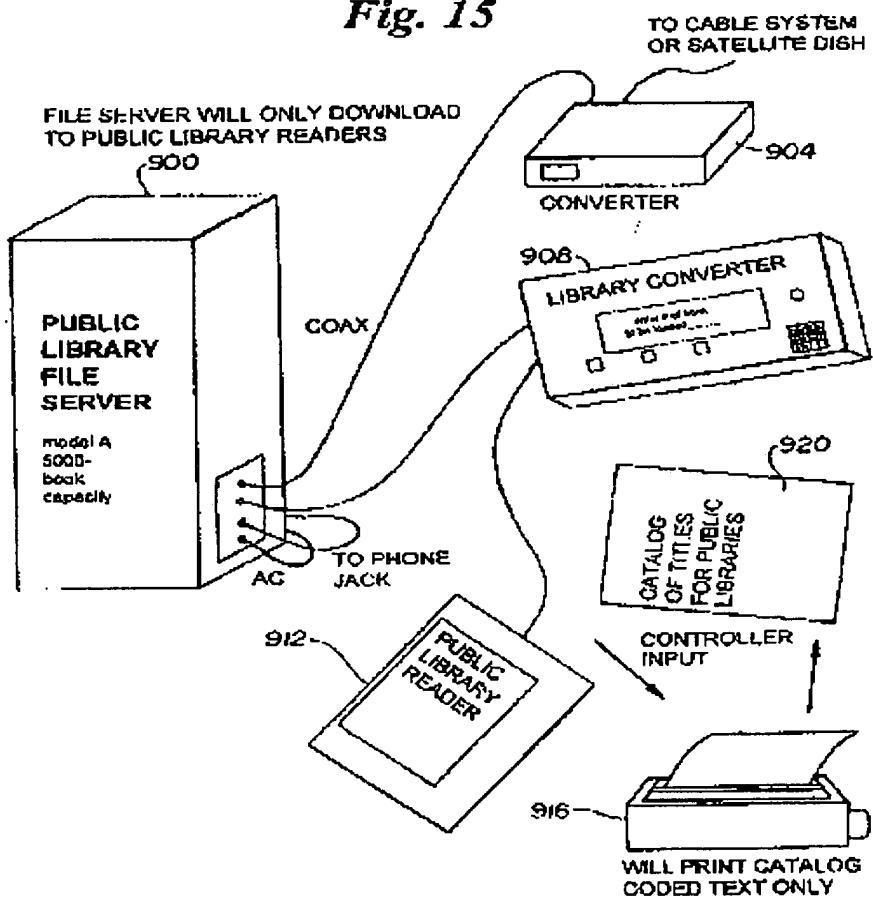
...Figure 15 shows one possible arrangement of components for a public library or bookstore location. The main unit at public library or bookstore is the file server 900. The file server 900 is a large electronic memory unit that can store thousands of books. Various electronic storage means may be used in the file servers, such as hard disks and read-write CD ROMs and read only CD ROMs.

The system comprises five components; a converter or video connector 904, a controller 908, a viewer 912, and a catalog printer 916. The software for controlling the system is primarily located in the controller. The converter or video connector 904 is similar to those described above. In this configuration the controller unit 908 monitors the data being transferred to the file server by the converter 904.

The controller 908 is only able to download books to the viewer 912 which are authorized to receive books from the particular file server. For security reasons it is not desirable

that the public viewer 912 have access to more than one file server. In this way, security can be maintained over the text data for books. It is preferred that the public viewer 912 be limited to receiving one or two books at a time from the controller 908. When the user of the public viewer 912 needs a new or additional book he returns the viewer 912 to the library where he receives a new book from the controller 908. (Emphasis Added)

Fig. 15



It is submitted that the claims of the present application have been amended to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. It is further submitted that the written specification does indeed provide adequate support for a

person skilled in the art such as an engineer, to have enough information to construct the invention. As such, Applicant submits that the claim amendments overcome the rejection, and places the present application in a better condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

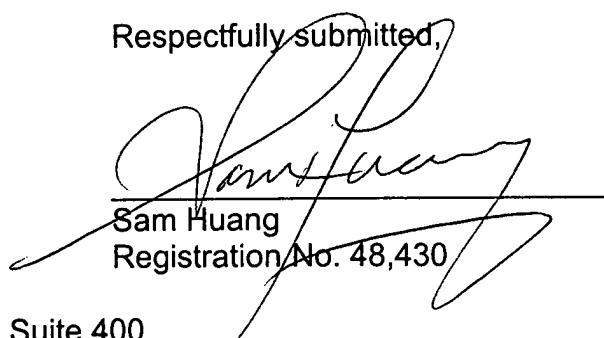
Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully request the allowance of claims 1-9, 11-20 and 22-29 and the prompt issuance of this application.

If for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper has not been timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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